

# ALLIES CUT QUESNOY-VALENCIENNES RAILROAD AND ARE IN THE SUBURBS OF FORMER TOWN NEAR BELGIAN LINE

Field Marshal Haig Evidently is Avoiding Direct Assault on the Mormal Forest Where Germans Are Solidly Entrenched

## FRENCH MAKE BIG GAIN ON THE SISSONNE FRONT

Americans Have Been Subjected to Heavy Fighting on the Southern Front, Germans Having Attacked in Savage Manner

(By the Associated Press.)

British troops are continuing their blow at the German line south of the bend of the Scheldt above Valenciennes. Progress there has been comparatively slow, but it would appear that the railroad between Le Quesnoy and Valenciennes has been crossed and that the British are in the outskirts of Le Quesnoy. There is an apparent effort on the part of Field Marshal Haig to avoid a direct assault against the Mormal forest immediately south, where the Germans are solidly entrenched and have countless machine guns and light guns in position. Northeast of Valenciennes the British and French are advancing toward the Scheldt.

The French on the Serre-Oise front have continued their attack on the northern side of the angle line. They have gained at important points, but the Germans are holding their front very strongly.

Southwest of Damvillers, in the Meuse sector, American forces have captured hill 360, a height which is important for observation purposes and which was strongly defended by the Germans. Near Grand Pre the Americans have forged still farther ahead and appear to be forming quite a large pocket in the German lines on the eastern side of the Argonne forest. American heavy artillery has been pounding German concentration points during the past two days.

British divisions in Mesopotamia have resumed their offensive against the Turks. It may be expected that there will be an effort to form a junction between the forces along the Tigris and those operating north and east of Damascus.

### FOURTH ASSAULT FORCED YANKEES TO WITHDRAW

Slight Loss Sustained in Belle Wood on Verdun Front, But Elsewhere the Americans Repulsed All the German Attacks.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26.—Heavy fighting on the Verdun front is described in General Pershing's communique for Friday. Strong German counter attacks east of the Meuse were repulsed everywhere except in the Belle Wood, where four successive attacks forced a partial withdrawal by the Americans. West of the Meuse the American lines were further advanced in the face of determined resistance.

The communique follows: "On the Verdun front the battle has continued with violence east of the Meuse. Late yesterday our troops enlarged their important gains south of the Conservoye-Damvillers road and occupied completely the Bois d'Ormont. To-day the enemy counter-attacks repeatedly and with strong forces on the front from the Bois d'Ormont to the Bois d'Etrayes. "Although supported by violent artillery and machine gun fire, his attacks were repulsed with extremely heavy losses. Only in Bois Belleu did he succeed in slightly pushing back our line. At this point after three assaults had failed before the stubborn resistance of our troops, the fourth attack forced us to withdraw from the eastern part of the wood. Hostile forces which attempted to penetrate our positions northwest of the Bois Belleu were driven back after a severe struggle lasting throughout the day. "West of the Meuse our troops have advanced in the face of determined resistance on the slopes northwest of Grand Pre and have entered the southern portion of the Bois de Bourgogne."

### FRENCH CAPTURED MORTIERS VILLAGE

There Has Been Violent Fighting on the Serre River Front, the War Department Announces.

Paris, Oct. 26.—On the Serre front southwest of Marle, the French have captured the village of Mortiers after violent fighting, the war office announces. Between the Oise and the Serre, the French maintain contact with the enemy.

Between Sissonne and Chateau Porcien the French, breaking up the enemy resistance, carried their line forward on a front of four and one-half miles to a depth of two miles at certain points through the positions prepared by the Germans in 1917.

The statement follows: "During the night there was heavy ar-

### GERMANS FIGHT WELL BUT ARE FORCED BACK

Apart from the Ground Gained By the Allies, They Have Lost Nearly 15,000 Men as Prisoners and 200 Guns in Last Four Days.

Paris, Oct. 26.—The battle has flamed up again and heavy fighting now is under way from Valenciennes to the Meuse. The Germans are fighting well everywhere, but the allies continue to make substantial headway in the task of driving back the enemy on the Meuse line.

Although the recent fighting has been marked by no sensational developments, it is having a cumulative effect which, apart from the ground gained, adds considerably to the wastage of men and material with which the Germans must reckon. In the last four days the enemy has lost well up towards 15,000 prisoners and 200 guns. His total loss of effectives cannot have been less than 50,000.

Strictly speaking, there are three large battles in progress, all of which are being conducted with equal success for the allies. The first is being carried on by the British third and fourth armies, which, pushing on towards Mons, have reached the Valenciennes-Hirson double track railroad. The second is the attack of General Mangin north and east of Laon, which has resulted in a gain on a front of eight miles for a distance of two miles. He has carried his line out of the swampy area around Sissonne. The third battle is being fought by General Guillaumat on a front of 17 miles from Sissonne to Chateau Porcien, where the Hindenburg line joins the Kriemhild system. The average gain has been a mile, although at some points the advance has been greater.

### POLICY OF BRUTAL FORCE. Is Way One German Paper Characterizes Wilson's Attitude.

Copenhagen, Oct. 26.—With few exceptions the German press condemns President Wilson's note, saying it is an alteration of his former standpoint and betrays lack of comprehension of recent events in Germany as well as misconception of what has happened there. It also said the note represents a concession to the demands of the allied nations.

Theodore Wolff, writing in the Tageblatt of Berlin, expresses great disappointment. He says it always has been a principle of international affairs not to interfere with the internal problems of other nations. President Wilson recognized this, he continues, in his Mexican speech in June, 1916, but now, Herr Wolff declares, this has been forgotten. He adds:

"The peace which the president proposes is to be a peace placing Germany at the mercy of its opponents. President Wilson's policy is one of brutal force. It is possible he hopes to sow dissension among the German people. We must be prepared for whatever may come."

Amsterdam, Oct. 26.—Although the German newspapers are not satisfied with President Wilson's latest note, many of them say it means progress toward peace. This feeling was reflected yesterday in advanced prices on the Berlin stock exchange.

The Kreuz Zeitung of Berlin, however, advocated war to the end. It says the president "in the style of an American boxer, has posed himself for a last blow in the face of the German people, expressing his intentions with brutal frankness."

### WANTON DESTRUCTION. In St. Quentin Was Carried Out By the Germans.

Paris, Oct. 26.—Deliberate destruction of property and documents of historic nature was carried out by the Germans at St. Quentin, according to a report made to Premier Clemenceau by the municipal authorities of that city.

Ancient city documents which had been walled up under cover of the German command and placed under seal were found to have been removed or burned. Evidence showed that this occurred shortly after the inhabitants fled from St. Quentin in March, 1917. At the cathedral an attempt was made to mine the great pillars.

In stripping every factory in the city, the Germans carried off all models and designs, and even the accounts of the various companies were removed. The municipal authorities ask that the armistice with Germany, when arranged, will secure the return of all the people of the city from occupied districts or Germany and that Germany be compelled to pay an indemnity and supply workers, material, machinery and furniture to enable the city to rehabilitate itself.

### HARD GAME EXPECTED. Between Annapolis and Newport Naval Training Station.

Annapolis, Oct. 26.—A stiff contest is looked for this afternoon in the football game between the midshipmen and Newport, R. I., naval training station, the latter team being composed of veteran football players.

It will be the first game of the season between navy and an outside team.

**DIED ON NEW YORK STREET.** Thomas W. Fleming Was Cartoonist on Newark News.

New York, Oct. 26.—Thomas W. Fleming, a cartoonist with the Newark News, died of heart failure in front of a restaurant here to-day. He had been dining with friends and collapsed after being removed to the street. He was 40 years old and his home was in Hilton, N. J.

**Delicate Question.** Kind Lady—How long since you have done any work? Frump—Pardon me, lady, but I'm rather sensitive about me age.—Boston Transcript.

### VAGUE CLAIM OF AGREEMENT

Germans "Agree to Regulation" of Alsace-Lorraine Questions

SAYS FOREIGN SECRETARY SOLE

Another Promise That Germany Would Stand by Wilson's 14 Points

Amsterdam, Oct. 26.—"As for Alsace-Lorraine, it is at once clear that, as these territories were expressly mentioned among President Wilson's 14 points, we agree to regulation of these questions," said Dr. W. S. Solf, German foreign secretary, in addressing the Reichstag on Thursday. (In the address referred to, President Wilson said: "The wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly 50 years, should be righted.")

"Moreover, having accepted President Wilson's program as the basis of the entire peace work," Dr. Solf continued, "we will loyally and in the sense of complete justice and fairness fulfill the program in all directions and at all points."

Dr. Solf declared that Spanish Minister Vialabar, representing British and Belgian citizens, and Commissioner Van Broe of the Belgian relief organization visited Tournai, Valenciennes and Sedan on Oct. 18 and reported that the German military authorities had done everything in their power to alleviate the condition of fugitives and residents in bombarded towns.

Dr. Solf also said it had been reported to him that German authorities had tried to protect the people of those cities against plundering and that efforts had been made to safeguard food supplies and save the stores.

Only men of military age had been removed forcibly, Dr. Solf asserted, and even then exceptions had been made in the cases of physicians, clergymen, firemen, policemen and those employed in supplying food.

Referring to questions asked on the previous day, the foreign secretary said the government emphatically repudiated any doubt of its intention honestly to carry out the principles laid down by President Wilson. He said:

"Having in reply to the president taken on its stand on his message, the government is resolved to act accordingly."

### REFUGEES POURING INTO HOLLAND

Distressing Stories Told of Old People and Babies Who Died on Way from Northern France.

Amsterdam, Oct. 26.—Weather-beaten refugees, mostly from the north of France, are trickling into the Dutch provinces of Brabant and Limburg. Some 2,000 now are accommodated in towns in these provinces. About 5 per cent are from over-fatigue and influenza and are being cared for in hospitals and convalescent camps.

Distressing stories are told about the old people and babies who died from exposure on the way and were buried where they met their end. Further westward no exodus has yet taken place.

In view of the German disclaimers of pillaging by the retreating troops, it is significant that Dutch correspondents at half a dozen different points on the frontier should tell the same story, obtained from refugees. "The Germans stole everything they could lay their hands on," a citizen of Bruges said to the Rosendaal correspondent of the Maasbode.

In the last few days the Germans have looted stores indiscriminately. A commission demanded that a city official surrender his carriage. Being asked later for a voucher, the officer pointed a revolver at the head of the owner and said: "This is my voucher."

Cartoons appeared in Bruges depicting the German Admiral Schroeder, whom Emperor William decorated for the "brilliant repulse" of the British attack on Zeebrugge, as fast asleep in a safe place far from the coast.

### INVESTIGATING CONDITIONS. Neutral Residents of Brussels Have Gone to the Front.

The Hague, Oct. 26.—It is semi-officially explained in dispatches from Berlin that neutral residents of Brussels, who have gone to the front to investigate conditions, have not been formed into a commission of inquiry. It is said their visit to cities near the battle line was made for the purpose of ascertaining what could be done for the refugees. They have communicated their report to the German authorities in Belgium and to the Belgian, French and British governments.

### SPREADS INTO MEXICO. There Are 60,000 Cases of Spanish Influenza in Mexico City.

Mexico City, Oct. 26.—Spanish influenza now is epidemic in virtually all parts of the republic, except the extreme south and a few of the Pacific coast states. Newspapers estimate the number of cases here at 60,000, but the death rate is low. The spread of the disease to the Tampico oil regions seriously menaces the oil industry.

**The Weather** Probably rain and cooler to-night. Sunday partly cloudy and cooler; moderate northeast to north winds.

### PEACE OFFER FROM TURKEY

It Has Been Submitted to Great Britain and France

VIRTUALLY AMOUNTS TO A SURRENDER

Turkish Minister to Switzerland Transmitted the Proposition

London, Oct. 26.—The Turkish minister to Switzerland has handed the British and French ministers to that country an offer of peace virtually amounting to surrender, according to a Bern dispatch to the Daily Mail.

### CRAZED WIDOW TRIED TO WIPE OUT HER FAMILY

Had Already Killed Two Children and Mutilated Another—She Was Found with Her Own Throat Cut and She May Die.

Wallford, Conn., Oct. 26.—Mrs. Mary Pustai, a widow, killed two of her five children early to-day and with the same razor mutilated her throat in a way which probably will bring death.

On Oct. 14 August Pustai died at the emergency hospital here of influenza, leaving behind his widow, five children, August, aged 1, Andrew, 5, Steve, 3, Frank, 2, and a baby, John, then a week old. The parents were of Hungarian birth, and had relatives here, the children, Frank and Steve, being taken in charge by their grandmother.

This morning the family upstairs were startled by the boy, August, running up with his throat bleeding. He said his mother had attacked him. Mrs. Pustai, mother had attacked him. Mrs. Pustai was found apparently dying upon the floor and the children, Andrew and John, dead in their bed. Dr. Buffum sent the woman to the hospital. He was of the opinion that Mrs. Pustai had become mentally deranged.

### TO WORK ON HOLIDAY

In Order to Make Up for Coal Production Lost During Epidemic.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26.—To make up for coal production lost through the epidemic of Spanish influenza, miners unions in the anthracite fields have voted to forego the celebration of Mitchell day, Oct. 29, reports received by the fuel administration to-day said. Indications are, the reports said, that virtually throughout the entire anthracite field miners will abandon observance of the holiday.

John Mitchell, in whose honor the holiday is annually held, has written a letter to John Dempsey, president of district No. 1, United Mine Workers of America, saying:

"My information is that there is likely to be a great coal shortage the coming winter and, therefore, it seems to me that the great patriotism of the miners would forego the celebration of 'Mitchell day' as a holiday this year."

### OPPOSE WEEK-END BASEBALL. Several American League Clubs Protest to B. B. Johnson.

Chicago, Oct. 26.—Several American league club owners do not approve of the proposed semi-professional week-end baseball league planned for next season. B. B. Johnson, president of the league, stated to-day. In communicating this to Johnson, he said, they asserted that they would not permit the use of their plants for such an organization.

### AIR RAID REPRODUCED. All Washington Is to Lack Is Explosion of Bombs and Barking of Guns.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26.—Washington to-night will experience the feeling that accompanies a night air raid. Aviators from Bolling Field, three aviation officers, who recently completed a flight from Houston, Tex., to Washington, will fly over the city. Candle power flares will be dropped while powerful searchlights which are a portion of the capital's aerial defenses will attempt to pick out the planes. Only the explosion of bombs and the barking of anti-aircraft guns will be missing in order to give residents the feeling that until recently was not uncommon to persons living in London and Paris.

### TWO REGIMENTS REVOLTED. Were Stationed at Karlowitz, a Village in Hungary.

Basel, Oct. 26.—Vienna newspapers are publishing articles relative to preparations for demobilizing the army. One newspaper says two infantry regiments stationed at Karlowitz, a village in Croatia-Clavien, Hungary, have revolted.

### RETURNED TO DUTY. Private George W. Mitson of Newport Had Been Reported Missing.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26.—The war department announced to-day that Private George W. Mitson of Newport, Vt., who had previously been reported missing in action, had returned to duty.

### FIRE IN COAL POCKET

Called Barre Firemen to Novelli & Calagni's This Morning.

A fire in the bituminous coal pocket at the granite manufacturing plant of Novelli & Calagni, Bianchi place, gave the firemen a busy half hour this morning, and while the fire is under control and does not threaten material damage, it continues to smoulder. The pocket contains around 60 tons of coal and the fire was discovered by the shed fireman when he arrived at the plant shortly after 6 o'clock. A still alarm was turned in at 6:30 and the firemen responded in the auto truck. They were absent from the station a half hour, during which time part of the coal was shoveled away from the seat of the fire. Employees of Novelli & Calagni took up the work, and the big pile will be turned over enough to extinguish the smouldering coals.

Three times within a few months large pockets of bituminous coal in Barre have taken fire by spontaneous combustion. Goddard seminary, with tons of soft coal stored in its cellar, had a difficult problem on its hands in August and for several days the fire smouldered. A few weeks ago a coal fire similar to the one discovered this morning broke out at the Harrison Granite Co.'s plant. At the Novelli & Calagni shed the coal which took fire is to be used for heating purposes and is pocketed in the boiler room near the center of the building.

The fire department anticipates more trouble of this sort unless the granite manufacturers take precautionary measures. An authority on soft coal fires recommends that bins be constructed in such a manner that the coal may be kept submerged in water all the time. A well known fireman's journal, in according the only known preventive and argues that metal bins be used for that purpose.

### FORMER GODDARD STUDENT.

Corp. William H. Northrop Died at Camp Polk, N. C.

Corp. William H. Northrop, a former student at Goddard seminary, who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Northrop of Baptist street, Williamstown, died at Camp Polk, N. C., Thursday morning at 8:45 o'clock, according to word received by his mother yesterday. It is expected that the body will arrive in Barre this evening, accompanied by the young man's father, who was called to Raleigh several days ago. Relatives of Corp. Northrop will be interested in Williamsburg or in Syracuse, N. Y., where he was living when he enlisted.

The deceased was 25 years old and a native of Ogdensburg, N. Y. He went to Williamsburg with his parents in his early youth and later was a student at Goddard seminary for two years. On the eve of his graduation he left school to accept a promising opening in Syracuse, N. Y., where his dilapidated car revealed him with a position as assistant manager of a Woolworth store. He enlisted last May and had been serving with the tank corps.

Corp. Northrop leaves his wife, who was Miss Sally McGillis, of Syracuse and to whom he was married on Christmas day, 1917. A daughter was born to them Oct. 18. Besides his parents, he also leaves his sister, Miss Estelle Northrop, and his brother, Swann Lewis, S. Northrop of Pelham Bay Park, N. Y., who arrived home last night.

### ALLEGED BANK THIEF CAUGHT IN NEW YORK

Frederick B. Frank, Aged 18, Arrested on Charge of Stealing \$25,000 at Kansas City.

New York, Oct. 26.—Frederick B. Frank, 18, was arrested here to-day and held as a fugitive from justice from Kansas City, where he was employed by the Stock Yards National Bank. The police stated that Frank was wanted in Kansas City for the theft from the bank of \$15,000 worth of Liberty bonds and \$10,000 in cash. They say that when arrested he wore a belt containing \$2,500. A woman, who said she was Estelle Lerch, a widow, of Lockport, N. Y., who was with Frank, was detained by the police.

### BARRE WOMEN CALLED ON To Register If They Have Had Experience in Nursing.

In conjunction with a nation-wide survey of the nursing resources of the nation, made at the request of the secretary of war and the surgeon general of the army by the American Red Cross, all women in Barre who have had experience in nursing are asked to send their names and addresses to Miss Gertrude Pitkin, the district nurse of Barre, so that eventually questionnaires may be directed to them. It is imperative that the names be submitted before Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Those who are included in the call are graduate nurses, pupil nurses, ungraduated nurses, practical nurses, trained attendants, midwives and those who have taken Red Cross courses. There is no cost in connection with this, and no obligation. There is only a great public need that the government may locate the women who are capable of giving assistance in the care not only of the army but of the great number of those who remain at home. It is urgently requested that all women in Barre who have had experience in nursing send their names to Miss Pitkin at once.

### WILL NOT CHANGE TIME. Detroit Adopted Standard Eastern Time Last March.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 26.—Time pieces in Detroit except those in railroad and federal offices, will not be changed tomorrow, when clocks throughout the country are turned back an hour. Prior to the passage of the daylight saving law last spring this city had adopted standard eastern time, although located in the central time zone. Clocks were not turned ahead then and in order to retain eastern time, the city council has decided no change shall be made now.

### WANTS TO GO TO FRANCE. Hank O'Day, Veteran Umpire, Wants to Hold Indicator Over There.

Chicago, Oct. 26.—Hank O'Day, veteran umpire of the National league, says he is anxious to go to France and call decisions for the American soldiers in their baseball games. "I'm going to try to get in touch with the proper authorities and see if I can't help out some way or other," he said to-day.

### TWO BULLETS TOOK EFFECT

But Oscar Heath of Warren Was Probably Not Badly Injured

GEORGE GREENSLIT WAS ARRESTED

Are Neighbors and Heath Was Shot While on Greenslit's Property

George Greenslit was arrested by Deputy Sheriff H. C. Lawson in Warren Friday afternoon and brought to Montpelier last evening on the charge of shooting Oscar Heath of that town Thursday evening with a 32-calibre revolver. He was taken before Judge E. M. Harvey and bail furnished by friends from Warren, and Mr. Greenslit went back to Warren last evening.

The story of the affair, as told last evening, is that Heath went to Greenslit's house Thursday evening. Mr. Greenslit thought he heard someone outside the house and went out, taking a revolver with him. He went about the yard but discovered no one and then went back into the house. Soon he heard a noise again and went out again. As he went around the corner of the house he heard someone. He claims that he shot, intending to frighten anyone that might be in the vicinity. However, two bullets took effect, one in Mr. Heath's wrist and the other near his stomach. He was taken to the house and is as comfortable as can be expected.

Mr. Heath makes the claim that he had been to a neighbor's to visit during the evening and that returning home he saw some poles on Mr. Greenslit's land, over which he was passing, and that he was taking these home when the shooting occurred. A bullet went through the right hand, and the second one went through the flesh above the right hip, coming out well toward the left side of the stomach but did not pass through the stomach and, as far as can be learned, did not puncture any internal organ.

Mr. Heath was not injured enough so that he could not put up a fight with Greenslit, who, after shooting, went to his home. Heath went home after they had some words and some blows were struck. Later in the night Heath went to the home of a neighbor, who took Heath back home and obtained a physician. Friday he did not seem to be badly injured and when the officers were there he insisted on their going to the attic to see the baskets he had made. The attic is filled with nice ones, while in the cellar can be seen about three bushels of spruce gum.

The two houses are not far apart on the road from Warren to Granville. They are the first two houses towards Warren from the schoolhouse where the road turns off to go to Studson hollow. Both men are well advanced in age, Greenslit having a wife and eight children. Heath is single.

### MURDERED AT BRISTOL, CONN.

Rocco Muzio Was Slain By John Grimaldi This Morning.

Bristol, Conn., Oct. 26.—Rocco Muzio, who had a fruit store in Main street, was shot and killed at his store by John Grimaldi this morning. Eye witnesses said that Grimaldi walked from his shoe repairing shop opposite to Muzio, who was arranging his fruit on an outside stand for the day, and drawing a revolver, fired once. Muzio staggered into the store and before falling Grimaldi sent four more bullets into his back. Death was immediate.

Harry Stone stood in the window of the adjoining barber shop and saw the act. He ran out and seized Grimaldi, took the revolver away from him and then with aid of fire department members, protected him against a crowd of men, mostly Italians, who seemed intent upon doing bodily harm to Grimaldi.

The police took the man with some difficulty to the station, where he was locked up until a hearing may be held on Monday.

Muzio, who was 41 and leaves a wife, is spoken of as a man of excellent character and peaceable disposition. He had been long in business. Grimaldi, who also had been here a long time, was from southern Italy and of fiery disposition and quarrelsome. A year ago he had trouble with his landlord over the presence of another shoemaker in the same building and he was fined \$50 and costs for hitting the landlord over the head with a hammer.

Friends of both men told the police they knew of no quarrel, and suggested that possibly Grimaldi had brooded over imaginary grievances concerning his trade, as he had just moved his wife and four children to Hartford. Grimaldi is 47.

### LEFT TO LOCAL BOARDS To Say When Saloons, Ice Cream Parlors and Soda Fountains Should Open.

Members of the local board of health stated to-day that Dr. Dalton of the state board of health left it with the local board of health to say when the saloons, the soda fountains and the ice cream parlors of Barre should be opened after the influenza epidemic.

### TALK OF THE TOWN

Neil Marrior of North Main street, who recently returned from an extended stay in Burlington, began work yesterday as a clerk in the grocery department of the F. D. Ladd Co.'s store.

William T. Maiden of Church street left this noon for Northfield, where he is to act as one of the officials in the football game between Norwich university and Middlebury college this afternoon.

Seaman Victor Anderson, who has been at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Anderson of Warren street, while convalescing from an attack of the influenza, returned to-day to Brooklyn, N. Y., where he is stationed at the navy yard.

Letters received here yesterday from Private Lee Holden of the 102d regiment say that he was in excellent health at the time of writing and that he continues to enjoy his part in the great conflict overseas. Private Maiden speaks of having a chat recently with Lieut. Neal Hooker and Private Ralph Lawless.